

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 07 Apr 2022 until 23:59 on Friday 08 Apr 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 07 Apr 2022 at 02:57

Confidence: High confidence for unsettled weather. Moderate confidence in showers, low cloud and strong winds.

Headline for Thursday 07 Apr 2022: Cloudy with some hill fog and occasional rain and hill snow, becoming brighter later with sunshine and isolated showers.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 07 Apr 2022

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Gales

Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

High Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Poor visibility

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Light snow	Dull	Light snow	Light snow	Light snow showers	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
30%	20%	40%	30%	30%	10%

Forecast for Thursday 07 Apr 2022

Weather: Mainly cloudy with occasional mainly light snow, with rain at low levels below 400m. Becoming brighter from mid afternoon with increasing sunny intervals though isolated snow showers are still possible. Turning dry with largely clear skies late evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30% increasing 70% from late afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Cloud bases around 500-700m in the morning and early afternoon, lifting above the summits from late afternoon and becoming broken. Below cloud, visibility mainly good but poor in snow.

Forecast for Thursday 07 Apr 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)				Wind Direction (blowing from)		
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	39/47 NW	29/38 NW	33/43 N	27/35 NW	26/33 NW	24/30 NW	19/23 NW
600	32/41 NW	27/37 NW	28/38 N	22/31 NW	18/26 NW	19/27 NW	16/23 NW
300	14/36 NW	14/33 NW	16/36 N	10/27 NW	9/24 NW	9/23 NW	8/19 NW
Valley	13/34 NW	14/31 NW	16/35 N	10/25 NW	9/23 NW	10/23 NW	8/19 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-10	-2/-10	-2/-11	-2/-10	-2/-9	-3/-10	-3/-10
600	1/-7	0/-7	0/-8	1/-6	1/-5	-0/-7	-1/-7
300	3/-2	3/-2	2/-3	4/-0	4/0	2/-2	1/-2
Valley	6/2	6/2	4/-0	6/3	6/4	4/1	4/0
Freezing Level*	700m	600m	500m	400m	500m	500m	500m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

Challenging conditions with strong winds, hill fog and severe wind chill, but improving later.

Forecast for Friday 08 Apr 2022

Weather: Patchy low cloud across some summits dissipating shortly after dawn to leave a very sunny morning. Cloud building through the afternoon with a risk of showers by evening.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 15mph gusting 25mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70% increasing to >90%

Low cloud and visibility: Poor visibility in low cloud around 500-600m covering summits around dawn. Very good visibility for the remainder of the day.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 2 Celsius increasing to Plus 8 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 2 Celsius rising to zero in the afternoon.
Freezing level: Around 500m lifting 800m in the afternoon.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Wednesday 6 April. Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:55. Temperature: plus 0.6 deg C Maximum wind speed 30.3mph. Wind chill: minus 8.4 deg C. Average wind speed: 22.6mph

Full report:

There is a skittering of fresh soft snow above 850m with the majority settling above 900m. It has been deposited on strong and gusty W to WSW winds. As such, there is nothing on windswept areas and only a light covering in sheltered spots and on north and east facing aspects – where it can lie over some old snow patches that have been present for months. The vast majority of Lakeland paths, though, remain completely free from snow. However as temperatures drop, the forecast is for any further showers to fall as snow on higher ground, so walkers out on the high fells on Thursday should expect to encounter more snow. In addition, the present soft snow could become icy and damp rocks gain a covering of verglas (thin ice). Neither of these issues was encountered today but could well be a hazard on Thursday as temperatures drop. As on Tuesday, the main hazards today were the gusty nature of the wind, low cloud and the wet, slippery nature of the paths and rocks. Thus exposed, rocky routes, such as Striding and Swirral Edges, require care and thoughtful foot placement especially above 900m where there is snow on them. With a summit temperature at midday of zero degrees and a summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) well below freezing full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves) and equipment - including a map and compass and the ability to use them in potentially poor visibility – remain essential. It is worth noting how waterproofs are always worth carrying even when no rain is forecast as they double as extremely effective windproofs. Those without them today (mainly overtrousers) were certainly feeling the minus 8 degrees windchill. As temperatures drop, walkers out on the higher fells on Thursday are highly recommended to pack walking poles and microspikes owing to the possibility of encountering ice - the latter are especially important if venturing onto exposed routes - such as the Helvellyn edges. Similarly goggles are helpful to lessen the sting of windblown hail.

For those interested in the weather stats, there were significantly stronger gusts of wind on the ascent and descent!

Issued at: 02:57 on Thu 07 Apr 2022